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February 10, 2010

The Honorable Gary LeBeau
Co-Chair, Commerce Committee
State Capitol, Room 417
Hartford, CT 06106

The Honorable Jeff Berger
Co-Chair, Commerce Committee
State Capitol, Room 110
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Bradley Airport Development Zone

Dear Senator LeBeau and Representative Berger

The MetroHartford Alliance urges you to enact legislation creating a Bradley Airport Development Zone around Bradley International Airport.

As Connecticut's flagship airport, Bradley is an important economic development engine in the region. Its tremendous impact on the state's economy has been documented by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, but it has yet to reach its full potential. Creating a Bradley Airport Development Zone would capitalize on the airport's optimal location. Additionally, it would foster new business development, add jobs and generate new state and municipal tax revenues.

The value of Bradley International Airport as an economic driver for the Capitol region cannot be emphasized enough. In a May 2005 report, the Department of Economic and Community Development estimated that, over the next twenty years, on average, the airport will contribute more than \$34 billion in output, nearly \$11 billion in income for Connecticut's residents and sustain nearly 140,000 jobs. As an economic development organization that meets regularly with potential employers and site selectors, soliciting them to help us create jobs in this region, we can confidently say that the enviable asset of hosting New England's second largest airport surrounded by esteemed corporate partners, over 1,000 acres of undeveloped land and access to a major interstate highway system is invaluable.

We strongly encourage you to seize this opportunity to create jobs in Connecticut by proactively adopting Bradley Airport Development Zone legislation during this session of the General Assembly.

Thank you in advance for your support of this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Theodore S. Sergi".

Theodore Sergi
Interim CEO
MetroHartford Alliance